

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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5/23/13
R. 008

Date: 5/23/13

Minority
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 244, L.D. 339, Bill, "An Act To Require Public Hearings by the Legislature To Be Recorded and Posted on the Internet"

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 19 by striking out all of the 6th to 14th lines (page 1, lines 9 to 17 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'Beginning January 1, 2014, the Legislative Council shall arrange to record all joint standing committee public hearings and make these records accessible to the public on the Legislature's website. The public hearing record must be a permanent record in the form of an audio recording. The State Archivist shall assist and advise the Legislative Council in the establishment of records management programs for the public hearing records pursuant to Title 5, section 95, subsection 7.'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

LEGISLATURE

Legislature 0081

Initiative: Provides funding to contract for recording and posting to the Internet audio recordings of public hearings of the Legislature.

GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
All Other	\$120,000	\$12,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$120,000</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R. 03.

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SUMMARY

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment eliminates the requirement in the bill that a record of a public hearing be accessible to the public on the Legislature's website within 72 hours of the public hearing.

The amendment also eliminates the requirement in the bill that a committee may not hold a work session on a bill unless the public hearing record of the bill is accessible to the public on the Legislature's website. The amendment also removes written transcript and video recording and other electronic recording from the types of records in which the public hearing could be recorded and leaves audio recording as the form for the permanent record.

The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 339

LR 497(02)

An Act To Require Public Hearings by the Legislature To Be Recorded and Posted on the Internet

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

A (H-228)

Committee: State and Local Government

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Projections FY 2015-16	Projections FY 2016-17
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$120,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$120,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes additional General Fund appropriations to the Legislature of \$120,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$12,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 for the estimated cost to contract for storing and posting audio recordings of public hearings of the Legislature on the Internet. The estimated costs may vary from the estimated amounts depending on the method chosen to implement this bill.

Additional costs to the Department of the Secretary of State associated with the State Archivist's assistance to and advisement of the Legislative Council in establishing a records management program for committee public hearings can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.